

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, ELAB, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN IMMIGRANT VISA REGULATIONS

REF: OTTAWA 3478

1. DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION HAS ISSUED LONG-HERALDED GREEN PAPER CONSISTING OF FOUR TOMES COMPRISING SOME 575 PAGES OF STATISTICAL AND OTHER STUDIES. WHILE NOT MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS, GREEN PAPER FOCUSES ON VITAL ROLE OF IMMIGRATION IN SHAPING CANADA'S POPULATION FUTURE. PUBLICATION IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE ON THIS IMPORTANT AREA OF PUBLIC POLICY.

2. REFLECTING CONCERN OVER RAPID INCREASE IN IMMIGRATION NUMBERS (OVER 200,000 EXPECTED FOR CY 1974 WHEN FIGURES AVAILABLE), PAPER PRESENTS OPTIONS OF SETTING OF ANNUAL NUMERICAL LIMITATION ON IMMIGRANTS, A REMEDY NOT HERETOFORE USED, EITHER ON GLOBAL OR ON REGIONAL (POSSIBLY PORT-TO-PORT) BASIS. THIRD OPTION IS RETENTION OF PRESENT RESPONSIVE SYSTEM OF RESOURCE ALLOCATION ABROAD; FOURTH OPTION IS GEARING MORE INTENSIVELY THAN NOW TO MEET ECONOMIC AND LABOR MARKET OBJECTIVES (VIZ. COUPLING OF PROSPECTIVE IMMIGRANTS TO SPECIFIC HARD-TO-FILL JOBS).

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3. COMMENT: CANADIANS EVIDENTLY CONCERNED OVER SHIFT FROM

PREDOMINATLBY BRITISH AND WESTERN EUROPEAN FLOW TO GROWING
INFLUX FROM CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH ASIAN AREAS AND FROM HONG KONG.
EXTAFF OFFICIALS ESTIMATE THAT LEGISLATION BASED ON THIS
GREEN PAPER DATA WILL NOT BE ENACTED FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR.
IN THE MEANTIME, GOC WILL CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO STEM
IMMIGRANT FLOW BY TIGHTENING OF QUALIFICATIONS, BY COUPLING
APPLICATIONS TO EXISTING JOBS, AND BY SUCH OTHER BUREAUCRATIC
DEVICES AS DELAY IN PROCESSING APPLICATIONS. WHILE THE GREEN
PAPER PRESENTS ITS OPTIONS WITH NO ADVOCACY, IT SEEMSTO BE
MAKING A CASE FOR ADOPTING SOME FORM OF A GLOBAL
IMMIGRATION CEILING.
PORTER

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